

# USDA Community Food Security Initiative



## What We're Doing

Seeking to cut hunger in America in half by the year 2015, the USDA Community Food Security Initiative is creating and expanding grass-roots partnerships that build local food systems and reduce hunger.

## How We're Doing It

USDA is joining with States, municipalities, non-profit groups, and the private sector to strengthen local food systems by replicating best practices of existing efforts and by catalyzing new community commitments to fight hunger.

## Goals We're Targeting

- 1) Creating new—and enhancing existing—**local infrastructures** to reduce hunger and food insecurity
- 2) Increasing **economic and job security** by helping low-income people obtain living wage jobs and attain self-sufficiency
- 3) Strengthening the **Federal nutrition assistance safety net** by supporting the full and efficient use of programs such as food stamps, WIC, school meals, summer feeding, and TEFAP
- 4) Bolstering **supplemental food provided by nonprofit groups** by aiding food recovery, gleaning, and food donation programs

5) Improving community **food production and marketing** by aiding projects that grow, process, and distribute food locally

6) Boosting **education and awareness** by increasing efforts to inform the public about nutrition, food safety, and food security

7) Improving **research, monitoring, and evaluation** efforts to help communities assess and strengthen food security

## Methods We're Using

Catalyzing the development of new **partnerships** on the local, State, and Federal levels to help communities reduce hunger.

Improving the **coordination** between existing USDA programs—such as nutrition assistance programs, community food grants, ongoing research, farmers' markets, and food recovery projects—and related Federal, State, and community initiatives.

Expanding **technical assistance** to States, communities, and nonprofit groups to build long-term local structures to increase food security.

Increasing **public awareness** of the causes of food insecurity and highlighting innovative community solutions to hunger.

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